GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1444
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2000
POLICY FOR ADOLESCENTS
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether adolescents constitute one-fifth of India's population;

(b) if so, whether despite this they are yet to figure as a separate group in Government policies and programmes;

(c) if so, whether UN has advised the Government to formulate specific programme for adolescents; and

(d) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)
(a) Adolescents in the age group of 10 to 19 years constitute 21.4% of India's population according to a recent study.
(b) Various programmes of Government place special emphasis on programmes of this age-group.
(c) UNFPA in India in a recent study titled "Adolescents in India: A Profile" has expressed the need for explicit policy and programme initiative on adolescents.
(d) All such recommendations form input in Government's policy making. At present various programmes of adolescent are being run in health, nutrition, education & training, sports, and recreation sectors. The Department of Women and Child Development has launched a scheme specifically for adolescent girls, namely the Kishori shakti Yojana.